

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A medical instrument comprising:

a first part and a second part which are connected together by a connecting device, said connecting device comprising a spigot provided on one of the first part and the second part and a spigot recess for accommodating the spigot provided on the other of the first part and the second part;

[[wherein]] the second part [[abuts]] abutting on the first part; [and]

a cover element which is connected to the first part and is disposed on the second part in such a manner that relative movement of the second part away from the first part is blocked by the cover element;

the cover element being positioned on the spigot and adapted to be placed on the spigot in the manner of a snap-action closure;

the cover element having a larger transverse dimension than the spigot at least in the region of a contact surface on the second part,

the contact surface on the second part being arranged at the spigot recess,

said spigot recess having a widened portion of greater cross section than the spigot,

the contact surface for the cover element being formed on the widened portion, and

the cover element being disposed within the widened portion.

2. (Currently amended) A medical instrument in accordance with Claim 1, wherein a portion of [[the]] a surface of the second part abuts on an associated portion of [[the]] a surface of the first part.

3. (Currently amended) A medical instrument in accordance with Claim 1, wherein a portion of [[the]] a surface of the cover element abuts on an associated portion of [[the]] a surface of the second part.

4-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently amended) A medical instrument in accordance with Claim [[4]] 1, wherein the spigot is provided with one or more longitudinal slots in order to form a seating for the cover element in the manner of a snap-action closure.

8. (Cancelled).

9. (Cancelled).

10. (Currently amended) A medical instrument in accordance with Claim [[4]] 1, wherein the spigot is arranged on the first part and the spigot recess is arranged in the second part.

11. (Original) A medical instrument in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the first part comprises a seating in which the second part is adapted, at least in part, to be placed on the first part.

12. (Original) A medical instrument in accordance with Claim 11, wherein the cover element blocks withdrawal of the second part from the seating,

13. (Original) A medical instrument in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the second part is moveable relative to the first part in a seating.

14. (Original) A medical instrument in accordance with Claim 13, having a guiding for the second part on the first part.

15. (Original) A medical instrument in accordance with Claim 1, wherein one part out of the first part and second part comprises at least one spigot and the other part comprises at least one spigot seating for guiding or holding the other part on said one part.

16. (Original) A medical instrument in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the two parts are moveable relative to one another via the connecting device.

17. (Original) A medical instrument in accordance with Claim 16, wherein the two parts are connected together in rotatable manner.

18. (Original) A medical instrument in accordance with Claim 1, wherein at least one of the first part and the second part are made substantially from a synthetic material.

19-29. (Cancelled).